



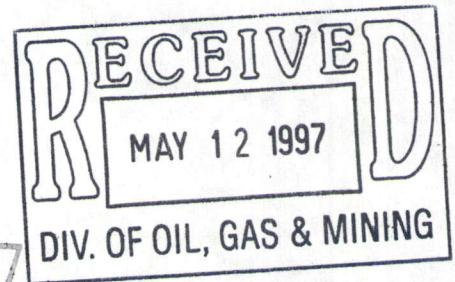
United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Salt Lake District Office
2370 South 2300 West
Salt Lake City, Utah 84119

IN REPLY REFER TO:

3600
(UT-023)



MAY 9 1997

Robert G. Pruitt, III
Pruitt, Gushee and Bachtell
Suite 1850 Beneficial Life Tower
Salt Lake City, Utah 84111

Dear Mr. Pruitt:

Thank you for your letter of April 28, 1997, requesting a sale of mineral materials from the Grouse Creek Community Pit, T. 9 N., R. 19 W., Box Elder County, Utah. This request was made on behalf of your client, Ash Grove Cement Company. I would like to summarize the steps we will need to take to process this request.

We will need to determine the fair market value of the material by appraisal. This amount will become the minimum bid for the competitive sale. In the early sale granted for the bulk sample taken by Ash Grove Cement Company, we used the appraisal of clay for use in landfill liners. This was expedient, but we will need to value the material again for this much larger quantity.

We will need to prepare an Environmental Assessment. This will evaluate the environmental consequences of your proposed activities. The information that you provided with your letter did not provide sufficient detail to us so that we may begin this Environmental Assessment. In addition to the location involved we will need to know the mining method that is proposed, the equipment that will be used, the hours and seasons of operations, the number of employees that will be on-site, and information about needed support facilities. Support facilities could include crushers, fuel dumps, explosives magazines, maintenance areas, communications facilities, culinary water needs, and sanitation requirements.

We will need to evaluate the area for threatened and endangered species and cultural resources. We will strive to provide these evaluations in a timely fashion. However, we have a very limited staffing capability in cultural resources. We are interested in knowing if Ash Grove Cement Company could provide us assistance in the area of cultural resources inventory.

We will need to consult with other government agencies. You mentioned your interest in coordinating our permitting with that required by Box Elder County. We are happy to do this. We also intend to coordinate our permitting with the Utah Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining. We have no formal understanding with the Utah Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining in our mineral material program and encourage you to make contact with this agency directly. They can be reached at (801) 538-5291.

We will not need to grant a right-of-way for the new road you propose. The portion of this alignment on BLM lands is within the boundaries of our Community Pit. Portions of your proposed new road cross private land and State land. You will probably need rights-of-way from these other parties to construct this road. We will need a map and a description of how the road will be built to include in our Environmental Analysis. This will include road widths and estimates of cut and fill.

We will need to advertise the sale for two weeks in a paper of local distribution before we hold the sale. We do not intend to begin advertising until we have completed our Environmental Analysis.

We look forward to working with you on this project. Should you have any questions regarding this letter, please feel free to call Phil Allard at (801) 977-4335.

Sincerely,

/s/ Margaret Wyatt

Margaret Wyatt
Area Manager

cc: Denton Beecher, Box Elder County
D. Wayne Hedberg, UDOGM